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Plain & Valley

August 2023 • Volume 16 Number 8

Covering Southeast Saskatchewan and Southwest Manitoba



Darla Under
Photography

The family of Koby Machniak are feeling the support of the community as Koby recovers from injuries he sustained in a motocross accident.

Local student injured in motocross accident Community gets behind GoFundMe campaign in support of the family of 16-year-old Koby Machniak

BY ASHLEY BOCEK

The community is uniting behind the family of a Moosomin student who was injured in a motocross accident recently.

On Sunday, July 30 at Madesa Motocross Racing Track near Virden, 16-year-old Koby Machniak of Moosomin was injured in a motocross accident.

Lea Wiens, Koby's mom, says it all happened really fast and he was airlifted by STARS to the ICU at the Winnipeg children's hospital.

"He was in Virden at a motocross race with the SMA (Saskatchewan Motocross Association). He had a crash. He was instantly unconscious. There were first responders there and they started to help. Someone called 911, it all happened really fast. The ambulance took Koby to Virden, then STARS airlifted him to Winnipeg. He was unconscious the whole time."

Koby Machniak has a traumatic brain injury (TBI) and spinal fractures from the ac-

cident. Each day Koby has been progressing.

"The next day he opened his eyes, but couldn't speak," said Lea. "He has a traumatic brain injury and C4-C5 fractures in his spine. He has had two MRI's and two CT scans. The recent MRI results say Koby has no nerve damage near his spine and brain bleeds are stable and will heal with time. There are two spots in his brain that are bleeding. There might be nerve damage in his hands because he keeps complaining about them. We were told the nerves in his hands might have been stretched and are inflamed. We went for a walk yesterday looking at the positive stuff. We haven't really had any setbacks. His blood pressure has been good all week. He is saying five-word sentences now and knows who his mom, dad, family and friends are. His short-term memory is coming. He is progressing every day."

His family is staying in Winnipeg for

however long Koby's recovery may take and are celebrating small victories together.

"Dwayne, Koby's dad, is taking off work and here in Winnipeg and I am here as well as Koby's siblings," Lea said. "We don't know how long we'll be here, we do not have a timeline at all. With brain injuries, the brain is a very complex organ and they cannot give us any answers at this time, since every case is so different. I am not sure how long we are going to be here."

"A lot of family is here for Koby. My partner, Michael, his sister Abby and Macy and then Dwayne, his dad, and his partner Jen and her three kids. He has a lot of support and he likes to show off to his siblings when they visit how much stronger he has been getting since being at the hospital. We are celebrating small victories together."

There has been a GoFundMe page set up for Koby and his family while they are away from home. The GoFundMe page is to help with any financial needs and future

treatment.

"The funds from the GoFundMe page will be used for financial burdens and any bills that are going to arrive. I am assuming we will be having to drive to Winnipeg, Regina, or even Brandon to concussion clinics and therapy. We don't know the long term outcome of the brain injury, maybe even schooling, I am not sure if he will be going back in September. The brain bleeds are in the part of his brain that is sensory, touching, and movement, but we will wait to find more out about that."

Koby is expected to have a full recovery. His recovery has been progressing every hour, Lea said.

"We haven't been told any different that Koby won't have a full recovery. We haven't been told anything about his long term recovery. It is literally not even day by day, it is hour by hour that we see many changes for Koby."

Continued on page 30



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Moosomin welcomes second medical resident to town

BY SIERRA D'SOUZA BUTTS
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

As part of Saskatchewan's Family Residency Training Program in the southeast, Dr. Stephanie Asence recently started her medical residency in the town of Moosomin.

The hosting of medical residents in Moosomin is an extension of the province's medical residency program, which includes programs in Regina, Moose Jaw, Swift Current, North Battleford, Prince Albert and La Ronge.

Last summer, Dr. Cara Fallis started her residency in Moosomin and was one of the four residents placed in southeast Saskatchewan.

Currently, there are a total of eight medical residents in southeast Saskatchewan; two in Moosomin; three in Weyburn; three in Humboldt.

"We're basically just adding another resident to the mix," said Dr. Kristin Foy, the Southeast Site Director for the Department of Family Medicine.

"Stephanie is in first year, and Cara is in second year. They're doing different rotations right now, Cara is in Fort Qu'Appelle, Stephanie is here in Moosomin for family medicine. It's exciting to see the program growing."

Having residents in the community helps contribute to Moosomin's Family Practice and the overall medical community in general, said Foy.

"As first year residents they aren't necessarily seeing a whole lot of their own patients, but as they get integrated into the community and become more comfortable with our practice then they cer-



Dr. Kristin Foy of Moosomin and first year medical resident Dr. Stephanie Asence spoke about Saskatchewan's Family Residency Training Program in the southeast.

tainly can see more," said Foy. "We are a learning based program. We're not service based, we want to make sure we're always focused on their learning and not just purely providing service. "Certainly they do provide some assistance, in terms of seeing patients, that other attending physicians might be doing. You have to have qualifications to supervise (residents), but most of our physicians here are supervising them."

Dr. Asence happy to be matched in Moosomin

Dr. Stephanie Asence spoke about why she picked Moosomin for her residency. "Because I live in Winnipeg, Moosomin was actually my top choice," said Asence. "When we look at the program de-

scriptions during the CaRMS matching process, there was a lot of good feedback about Saskatchewan's Family Residency Training Program.

"Most of the people who have gone through Saskatchewan's program have had good things to say about the program so it was one my top choices.

"I originally came from Winnipeg so I thought it would be an easier move if we were near family as well. I brought my family here too.

"Because families are a big support group during residency, we wanted to maintain a relationship with our Winnipeg family.

"Moosomin was a good site, I also talked to Dr. Cara when we were ranking programs and she did have very nice

feedback about the community.

"I also knew some of the Filipino community here. I had a friend who connected me with the Filipino community here and they were very nice."

So far, Asence said she is enjoying the community in Moosomin.

"It's good, it's a very charming town. I'm used to rural living," she said.

"I was also a rural physician back in the Philippines, I'm used to the small town, very quiet, laid back community. I'm liking it so far."

Asence said her interest for becoming a doctor came from her grandmother being a physician back in the Philippines.

"I had a grandmother who was also a family physician back in the Philippines," said Asence.

"In my mind she was really into community work. She would go into the grassroots and meet people there. She was one of my inspirations.

"I'm really into community and family medicine, I'm hoping to gain more skills and knowledge during residency so that I will be more confident starting my own practice after."

Asence said she is interested in practicing rural medicine after finishing her residency.

"I'm really leaning into the rural medicine just based on the few weeks that I have been here," she said.

"I'm definitely liking the way the doctors are practicing family medicine.

Continued on page 14

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**Virden hosts
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On July 25, the Virden Community Chamber of Commerce and the Virden Agricultural Society organized the 2023 Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) Musical Ride at the rodeo grounds in Virden, in recognition of the RCMP's 150th anniversary.

The troop of 32 riders and their horses performed intricate formations and drills that were set to music. Their movements involved the utmost control, timing, and coordination.

Over 300 people attended the big event in Virden.

Left: RCMP riders performing the musical ride at the High School Rodeo Ring in Virden on July 25.



Over 300 people came out on July 25 to attend the musical ride.



There were 32 RCMP riders who participated in the musical ride in Virden.

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Moose Mountain artist cabins open all summer

BY SIERRA D'SOUZA BUTTS
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE
REPORTER

Every summer from the May long weekend until September long weekend, the Moose Mountain Provincial Park runs their Artists Colony—located in four cabins beside the park's Chalet—that showcases different crafts, paintings, and artwork for sale.

Two out of the four cabins have two artists, Ken Frederickson and Margaret Delaine, who are there permanently throughout the whole summer.

The other two cabins have different artists from across the province who come for two weeks to display and sell their own artwork. From July 25 to August 8, Eli Barsi and Cheryl Andrist were at the cabins.

"Artists in the cabins are open to the public during the summer for people to enjoy the different art," Frederickson said.

"They're like individual art galleries, a lot of people will come through the year from all over the world.

"This year people have been from England, Pakistan, and all across the U.S. and Canada, Denmark, Taiwan. It's interesting the people that come through here. On a normal year



Ken Frederickson has his art displayed at the Artist's Colony of Moose Mountain Provincial Park.

we get between 3,000 to 4,000 people who come for the artists in the cabins."

Frederickson is a bronze artist and has been part of the artists in cabins for years. He said his favourite part about being there is the inspiration he gets from other talented Saskatchewan artists.

"I like meeting the people, and having the ability to show my art," said Frederickson.

"I'm a bronze artist so I enjoy people interacting with the different pieces, and see what they're drawn to.

"Working with other artists too, it's an absolutely incredible environment there. Anytime you're around like-minded people it's so inspiring. The creativity flows in the environment there."

Delaine said she also enjoys her time being at the cabins with the other artists, as well as being one of the permanent artists who is there all summer long.

"Ken and I have been here the longest. There was a time where the two cabins didn't rotate, those people had retired or passed away," she said. "Ken and I are here full time during the season, and the other two rotate which brings a freshness to it.

"It's really nice to be part of a community of like-minded individuals who are different, but creative. It inspires me and makes me want to think, when you're interacting with others and busy creating work.

"What I really enjoy about being at this colony, that's the number one thing of course is being a part of the community of artists, but the other is the setting, sometimes it's very busy here and sometimes it isn't.

"It's a creative space where you can just paint and enjoy the quietness and peacefulness of the park, to be inspired by the colors of the water that change every few minutes.

"The other part of it is you meet so many interesting people. It's amazing who goes through our parks because you get to meet people from all over the world."

The different cabins offer a variety of art pieces, such as wood carvings, sculptures, paintings, and more.

"There's so much different artwork, beautiful artwork. There is some very talented artists who come for a week, or who are here for a while," said Delaine.

Continued on page 13

Moe says Esterhazy healthcare project on track

BY KEVIN WEEDMARK

Saskatchewan Premier Scott Moe provided an update on the construction of Esterhazy's new health facility on August 1.

The Premier was in Esterhazy that day as part of his summer hometown tour and took questions from the World-Spectator and other media. He was asked where the Esterhazy project is at and what the next steps are.

"There will be a needs assessment that will be done with respect to what services are being offered here today and what services may ultimately be required in the future," he said.

"We're seeing a shift in that service demand, not only in our large urban centres but in many of our communities as well.

"For instance, 20 years ago the conversation around what mental health and addictions supports you may have associated with your healthcare facility wasn't a large part of that conversation.

"Ten years ago when we built a facility in my community, that wasn't as large a part of the conversation. It is today on how you link and liaison mental health services and addiction services to those folks that may need it, wherever they may live.

"So that needs assessment changes with time and morphs a bit as we go through time, so that has to happen.

"There will have to be a site location and I'm not sure if they do have a site selected in Esterhazy as of yet, but that will come with some local consultation as well.

"Ultimately there will be some work at the local level with some

fundraising for the furnishings and whatnot. I know that the community here has been fundraising in anticipation of a government coming through with an announcement at some point in time, but those are just examples of some of the processes that do take some time before you actually start to put some concrete in the ground and move forward with the facility.

"We don't take the announcement of these facilities lightly. When these facilities are announced it is our full intent to be moving forward with them at as quick a pace as possible, but there are some steps that we need to find our way through. The same would be true for Yorkton as we have some planning dollars in place for Yorkton."

Moe said he learned a lot on his tour Tuesday.

"We met with a good number of people," he said. "We actually had lunch down at Round Lake and we met with the mayor of Melville, we met the Ottenbreit Meats folks there as well, of which one is the mayor of Grayson I learned and one was the mayor of Grayson—they could have a council meeting in the meat shop!

"I've been having some good discussions, for example, some of the value added ag, we think canola crush and large investments, there's some tremendous value added agriculture in a place just like Ottenbreit Meats in Grayson, Saskatchewan. I'm talking to them about the SLIP Program which is a program that was helping fund the purchase of some mechanization opportunities, or equipment essentially,

for them.

"They're doing a wonderful business across western Canada essentially, busy employing people in their town and keeping rural Saskatchewan not only alive, but helping it grow. That's just one example of a small to medium sized business that maybe we don't get the opportunity to connect with or talk about as much as we need to.

"We spend a lot of time talking

about what the potash industries bring to our communities and the peripheral businesses that are then able to service and support that industry that is so important to our communities, but there's all of the businesses like Ottenbreit Meats and a window manufacturer, Century Glass in Melville, that we visited, that are employing people and are really in many ways the heart and soul of our communities."

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Councillor Ron Fisk helped facilitate having a stage coach in the community, as he felt it is an important part of Canada's history.

The stage coach is located at Bradley Park in Moosomin.

Stage Coach added to historic site at Bradley Park

BY SIERRA D'SOUZA BUTTS

LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Earlier this month a stage coach was placed at Bradley Park in Moosomin.

The historic four-wheeled wagon was used for transportation, as well as celebrations, back in the 1880s.

"Pioneers used the stage coach, they ran from here to Birtle to the Shell River (western Manitoba) daily. There was also a route once a week they took to Oxbow too," said Councillor Ron Fisk for the Town of Moosomin.

After suggesting the idea at a council meeting to bring a Stage Coach for display in the community, Fisk said the town was unsure how to move forward with the project.

"Mike Schwean was looking around and he found an auction with these Stage Coaches selling down in Winnipeg," said Fisk.

"It's been rebuilt as a Stage Coach, it's an original wood wagon and the top part has been built to replicate a Stage Coach."

With the community working together to bring the item to town, Fisk said he hopes people in the community learn the history behind it.

"Anyone who is interested in history will recognize it," he said.

"I think it's an important part in the history of developing the country.

"It's like any part of history, if you don't learn about the different things then how do you look to go forward? It's a long way from what we drive around today that's for sure."

The stage coach is placed at Bradley Park beside the interactive tipi project, along with the Red River Cart, which were both organized by the Métis Local 44 in Moosomin.



The historic site at Bradley Park has the Red River Cart, an interactive tipi with an electronic kiosk inside of it, as well as the newly added stage coach.



Hay Salvage and Mowing

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Looking forward to Labour Day

The meaning behind some parts of our history tends to fade from our collective memory over time. This is certainly the case for Labour Day, a holiday that has taken on a whole new significance through the years. One thing remains the same, however: Canadians continue to welcome this long weekend with open arms!

Nowadays, Labour Day signals the end of summer activities and the beginning of a new school year, and it is a time to relax before our busy fall schedules take precedence. Even though there is still a feeling of summer in the air, we become more aware that the days are getting shorter and we notice that the harvest season is around the corner, bringing fall scents like hay and wet fallen leaves.

Labour Day is a time of change in many different ways, and it provides a wonderful opportunity to roam the countryside, stocking up on freshly-picked vegetables or biting into crispy apples. It is a favourite time of year for outdoor enthusiasts of all kinds, with some people taking advantage of this three-day weekend to travel even further afield, exploring new areas of the country.

Yet there is a great deal of meaning behind this special event, which we all celebrate on the first Monday of September. It should also be a time to remember the origins of Labour Day, to remember that, without the efforts and sacrifices of the labour movement to improve working conditions during the 1880s and '90s, this holiday would not exist. That vast mobilization of the labour force, born in big cities such as Toronto, Ottawa, and Montreal, grew to encompass the entire Canadian working class and became the holiday that we know today.

Labour Day is more than just another day off. This 1st of September, let's celebrate the success of the workplace and think about ways of improving every aspect of work, so that every day is safer and more fulfilling. Labour Day has been celebrated on the first Monday of September for more than a century. In fact, the first Labour Day parade



was held in New York in 1882. Twelve years later, Labour Day became an official holiday in the United States as well as in Canada.

Picnics, fireworks and many other activities organized by unions take place during this long weekend, to remind us of the great battles that were won over the years and the challenges faced by a work environment in perpetual transition. It's the perfect occasion to make sure that safety will remain a priority and that new ways will be found to consolidate family and work.

While primarily a celebration of the working class, Labour Day is increasingly recognized as the unofficial end of summer. Therefore, take the time during this long week-end to fully enjoy summer's last effort. Make it a weekend to remember by joining in public events in the city or in the country; celebrate with an outdoor barbecue and one last splash in the pool or the lake! During these festivities, also take a minute to fully appreciate the fact that having a job enables you to enjoy the good things in life, while building a good future for yourself and your loved ones.

Labour Day in Canada

Labour Day, the first Monday in September, has been a statutory holiday in Canada since 1894. It originated in the first workers' rallies of the Victorian era. Historically, workers marked the day with various activities. These included parades, speeches, games, amateur competitions and picnics. The holiday promoted working-class solidarity and belonging during a time of rapid industrialization. Since the Second World War, fewer and fewer people have participated in Labour Day activities. Nevertheless, it remains a statutory holiday. Many Canadians now devote the Labour Day holiday to leisure activity and family time.

Before the 1880s, people held sporadic festivities in connection with larger labour movements. Some historians trace the origin of Labour Day to the Nine Hour Movement (1872).

Labour organizations began to hold celebrations more frequently following a labour convention in New York in September 1882. Spurred on by this initial success, the American Federation of Labor and the Knights of Labor actively promoted workers' celebrations on the first Monday in September in the United States. The Canadian chapters of these organizations did the same. Records show similar gatherings in Toronto (1882); Hamilton and Oshawa (1883); Montreal (1886); St. Catharines (1887); Halifax (1888); Ottawa and Vancouver (1890); and London (1892).

As the event grew more popular nationwide, labour organizations pressured governments to declare the first Monday in September a statutory holiday. Their impact was significant enough that the Royal Commission on the Relations of Labor and Capital in Canada (1886-89) recommended that the federal government establish a "labour day." Before this, the day had official status in only a few municipalities. Montreal, for example, declared it a civic holiday in 1889.

In March and April 1894, more than 50 labour organizations from Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Manitoba and British Columbia petitioned parliamentarians. These groups included several regional trade and labour councils, as well as local assemblies of the Knights of Labor. They based their lobbying movement on similar initiatives from American unions. In the House of Commons, a bill sponsored by Prime Minister John Thompson prompted the debate about the holiday's legal status in May 1894. The House passed an amended holiday law without major discussion. It received royal assent on 23 July. The United States federal government also recognized the holiday in 1894.

The provinces had no choice but to adapt. For example,

Quebec parliamentarians announced that the province's courts would not sit on the first Monday in September of that year. It wasn't until 1899 that the province granted the holiday legal status, ordering school boards to delay the start of classes until after the first Monday in September.

Canadians celebrated Labour Day with much ceremony on September 3, 1894. In Montreal, the city's Trades and Labour Congress played a key role in organizing events for the day. A parade set out from the Champ de Mars park at 9 a.m. Its divisions grouped together unions representing the same trade. The Grande-Hermine local assembly of the Knights of Labor led the way. It guided participants to a park where they held speeches, games and a picnic. In Quebec City, the Trades and Labour Congress chose instead to hold a mass followed by entertainment. This included bicycle competitions, foot races and a lacrosse match.

Happy Labour Day!

Thank you to all the hard working women and men of Saskatchewan, as well as the employers, who have helped build this province and have contributed to our quality of life.



Daryl Harrison MLA Cannington 306-443-4400
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Labour Day: The holiday Canada gave the world

Welcome to Labour Day, the holiday that is so much a part of our culture that Canadians rarely pause to consider its true purpose and meaning.

Today, Labour Day is often more associated with fairs and festivals, and a last summer weekend at the cottage, than with what it was meant to be—a heartfelt celebration of workers and their families.

That's too bad, but perhaps not surprising. In a way, the holiday has become a victim of the labour movement's enduring success in improving the lives of working Canadians.

Today we take paid holidays, safe work places, medical care, unemployment insurance, fair hours, union wages and 'the weekend' for granted. But how many of these advances would have happened if it were not for the long-forgotten heroes who fought so hard to make unions, and Labour Day, a reality in the first place?

Labour Day began in Canada on April 15, 1872, a mere five years after Confederation. On that historic day the Toronto Trades Assembly, the original central labour body in Canada, organized the country's first significant 'workers demonstration.'

At the time trade unions were still illegal, and authorities still tried to repress them, even though laws against "criminal conspiracy" to disrupt trade unions had already been abolished in Britain.

Despite the obstacles, the assembly had emerged as an important force in Toronto. It spoke out on behalf of working people, encouraged union organization and acted as a watchdog when workers were exploited. Occasionally, it also mediated disputes between employers and employees.

By the time the landmark parade was organized in 1872 the assembly had a membership of 27 unions, representing wood workers, builders, carriage makers and metal workers, plus an assortment of other trades ranging from bakers to cigar makers.

One of the prime reasons for organiz-



ing the demonstration was to demand the release of 24 leaders of the Toronto Typographical Union (TTU), who had been imprisoned for the "crime" of striking to gain a nine-hour working day.

The event took on a life of its own and was one that authorities could not ignore.

Held on Thanksgiving Day, which was then observed in the spring, the parade featured throngs of workers and a crowd estimated at 10,000 Torontonians who applauded as the unionists marched proudly through the streets, accompanied by four bands. In speeches that followed, trade union leaders demanded freedom for the TTU prisoners and better conditions for all workers.

It was a defining moment in Canadian labour history, opening the door to the formation of the broader Canadian labour movement over the next decade and sowing the roots of what is now an annual workers' holiday around the world.

The Toronto parade inspired leaders in Ottawa to stage a similar event. A few

months later, on September 3, 1872, seven unions in the nation's capital organized a parade more than a mile long, headed by an artillery band and flanked by city firemen.

The Ottawa parade passed the home of Sir John A. MacDonald, the prime minister. He was hoisted into a carriage and taken to City Hall where, by torch light, he made a ringing promise to sweep away "such barbarous laws" as those invoked

to imprison the TTU workers in Toronto. The 'Old Chieftain' kept his word. Before the year was out the hated laws were gone from the statute books in Canada.

In 1873 the Toronto Trades Assembly called a national convention and set up the first national central organization, the Canadian Labour Union (CLU), which in 1886 became the Trades and Labour Congress of Canada (TLC), which was one of the forerunners of the present Canadian Labour Congress (CLC), now the major national labour organization in Canada.

Labour Day celebrations in the United States began in the 1880s, inspired by the beginnings made in Canada.

Initially, Labour Day was celebrated in the spring but that did not last long. After it was declared a legal holiday by the Parliament of Canada on July 23, 1894, the celebration was moved to the early fall, where it has remained ever since.

Around the world today Labour Day is celebrated at different times. In Europe, Latin America, Africa and Asia it is known as "May Day" - or International Workers' Day - and it is celebrated on May 1. In New Zealand, it is held on the fourth Monday in October, and in Australia the date varies from state to state across the country.

But wherever it is celebrated, the purpose remains the same. In the same spirit it began so many years ago, it remains a day that affirms the dignity and honour of working people everywhere. NUPGE



Labour day is a great opportunity to honor all workers and show how appreciated their efforts are! Thank you for your continued outstanding work.

Happy Labour Day!



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SUMMER EVENTS DIRECTORY



Kennedy celebrates Homecoming & 90th Rodeo

It was a big weekend in Kennedy from July 21-23 when the village celebrated its 90th Moose Mountain Pro Rodeo and Homecoming. The Moose Mountain Pro Rodeo was held on Saturday and Sunday, along with a parade on the Saturday, demolition derby both days, trick riding and aerobatic pilot performances.

The entire weekend was kicked off on the Friday with the "All Roads Lead Home" concert, with performances by Eli Barsi, Blake Berglund, Heidi Munro and Scott Patrick, and Lane Easton. On Saturday, the band Switch performed in the beer gardens.

The rodeo and homecoming committee spent months planning the event, with around 3,500 people in attendance over the weekend.



Above: The bull wrestlers stepping in to save a fallen bull rider from being trampled.



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Above: Kids taking part in a mini demolition derby with Power Wheels provided by Matt Wahoski.

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Scandinavian tradition on full display at Minot's Norsk Høstfest Sept. 27-30

Norsk Høstfest is proud to host the 44th annual festival in Minot, North Dakota!

Scandinavian tradition is on full display for the four days of the festival. From Nordic entertainment to culinary options, guests will truly have a cultural experience.

Visit with artisans showcasing ancient traditions or take a walk back in time at Viking Village. No matter where you may roam during Høstfest, one thing is for sure—it will be a Nordic adventure! 2023 Norsk Høstfest takes place from September 27-30 at The North Dakota State Fair Grounds in Minot, North Dakota.

The festival doors open at 12 pm on Wednesday and at 9 am Thursday-Saturday. Dining and shopping vendors are open until 8 pm daily.

Artisans

Experience culture like you've never seen before. The artisans featured at Norsk Høstfest share their craft with visitors that share an appreciation of Scandinavian traditions and customs. Artisans at this year's festival will display wood turning, jewelry making, rosemaling, Scandinavian weaving, and more!

Vendors

Norsk Høstfest is jam packed with all sorts of Scandinavian vendors. Purchase silver jewelry, Norwegian sweaters, authentic Scandinavian gifts, fine arts, souvenirs, and much more. The handcrafted items you'll find for sale are like the experiences you'll have at Høstfest—truly one-of-a-kind!

Vikings

The fun to be had within Viking Village is endless! The village is designed to replicate a Viking settlement and is complete with traditional Viking tents, cooking stations, and crafting areas. What makes the Viking Village truly special is the live Viking role-playing that takes place



The Norsk Høstfest in Minot, North Dakota runs from September 27-30 and is jam packed with lots of activities and entertainment.

throughout the day. Visitors can interact with actors who are dressed in authentic Viking costumes and watch as they go about their daily routines, such as weaving textiles or preparing food over an open flame. The actors are highly skilled and knowledgeable about Viking history and are happy to answer any questions visitors may have.

Entertainment The Oak Ridge Boys

The Oak Ridge Boys take to the Great Hall Stage on September 28 at 7 pm. The Oak Ridge Boys are a Grammy-winning country and gospel vocal quartet formed in the 1940s. The group's current lineup consists of Joe Bonsall, Duane Allen, William Lee Golden, and Richard Sterban. Over the years, they have released numerous hit singles and albums, including "Elvira," "Bobbie Sue," and "American Made."

Terry Fator

Terry Fator is coming to Norsk Høstfest on September 29 at 1 pm. After winning NBC's America's Got Talent and selling out at the Mirage Hotel & Casino for 11 years, world famous singer, comedian, impressionist and ventriloquist Terry Fator now performs a new show, "Terry Fator: Who's the Dummy Now?" at New York-New York Hotel & Casino.

Million Dollar Quartet

On Wednesday, September 27 the Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation will be performing Million Dollar Quartet at 1 pm and 7 pm in the Great Hall. Around Christmas time in 1956, Carl Perkins was in a post—"Blue Suede Shoes" funk. He booked a recording session on December 4 with producer Sam Phillips. Along with Jerry Lee Lewis, Perkins, and his band recorded a number of songs including one of Perkins' best-known records, "Matchbox."



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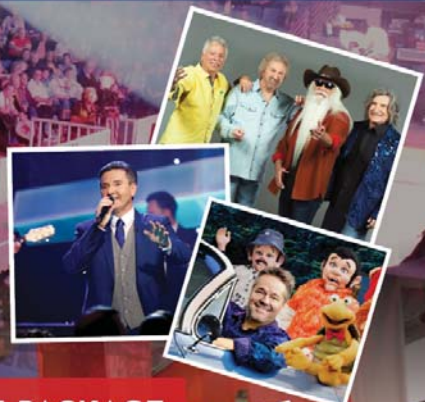


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Virtual physician program pilots in Oxbow

BY SIERRA D'SOUZA BUTTS
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

As of Aug. 1, Saskatchewan Health Authority has started its new Virtual Physician (VP) program at the Galloway Health Centre in Oxbow.

The VP program provides nursing staff remote access to a physician using the existing infrastructure of HealthLine 811 at the time when no local physician is available to provide emergency department coverage.

"If a patient is sent to the emergency room, the nurse will make an assessment on them like they normally would, as well as triage the patient, to determine what level of care acuity they require," said Sheena Grimes, SHA Director of Primary Health Care.

"Once they've completed that assessment, then the nurse will call 811 and connect with a virtual physician at that time. They will receive the orders from that physician or whatever next steps are necessary."

Grimes said the program is a temporary solution for the community of Oxbow, due to the town's health centre being short of two out of its three physicians, since the end of June.

Oxbow is the second community that the VP program will be used in, as it was first launched in Porcupine Plain during late June.

"With the Virtual Physician

project we are looking at how we can provide services to communities that would be on disruption because there's no local physician there," said Grimes.

"As we are working through this project, we continue to recruit physicians through the Oxbow area.

"We're expecting that our third physician should arrive in the fall."

Although there is no set time for how long the VP program will run for, Grimes said it will be utilized to help fill the physician gaps at Oxbow's Galloway Health Centre.

"We're hoping that once the new physician is up and running (in the fall), we'll be able to experience 24/7 onsite physician services again," she said.

"However, we recognize that this could provide a stop to the gap, in the event there isn't a local physician available. Although this is a temporary solution, we don't have a firm end date."

Grimes was asked why SHA felt Oxbow was a good fit for the virtual physician program.

"Oxbow was identified as a good fit, as I mentioned they did lose those two physicians, so it's very difficult for one physician to maintain a 24/7 ER service," said Grimes.

"We did have a new SIPPA physician that just started on July 17. We just felt it would be a good opportunity to pile it in the project. If the community needs to experience service disruption, how do we stabilize the ER service to provide at least some services in the meantime through the virtual physician program."

With the program still being fairly new, SHA may expand its

use to other communities that are also experiencing physician shortages as well.

"The process that we're using is to learn from each of the locations as they're onboarded," said Grimes.

"As well, to how we can make the process better, and if there's opportunities to replicate the program to further locations, then that may be considered in the future."

Although Grimes was not directly involved with VP program being used in Porcupine Plain, she spoke about some of the feedback SHA has received so far about it

has been utilized.

"The feedback that we received, we've been able to utilize some of the work standards and processes they've gone through Porcupine Plain, to implement it in Oxbow to help the process of it running smoothly," said Grimes.

"I do think to this point it has been quite successful, but I haven't been directly involved to comment.

"We're really excited to have this innovative opportunity to provide a more stable ER services in the community. We're looking forward to the continued roll out."

Steven Bonk, MLA for Moosomin Constituency

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Moose Mountain artist cabins open all summer

Continued from page 5

"Coming here is also an alternative to camping, to the beach, and golfing. It's my observation that people of the community are very proud of the Artists Colony because it's a place for them to bring their visitors, which they do.

"It's also a place that's a feast for the eyes, it's such an enjoyable experience. It's also very unique to any provincial park in Saskatchewan."

Eli Barsi featured at art cabins

Throughout the week until Aug. 8, Eli Barsi was one of the four artists at the Moose Mountain Artist's Colony.

"This will be my seventh consecutive year back at the Artist's Colony, except for Covid when they closed," said Barsi. "I'm very excited to bring new art again this year. I bring about 50 to 70 pieces with me. All of the artists each have something

different to offer so I'll be bringing mostly my landscape acrylic paintings, but I've added a lot of new pieces this year that are other kinds of functional art like charcuterie boards with my art on it, and coasters.

"I paint ever day there, I'll do at least one painting a day is my goal. Everything is for sale, but we encourage people to come and browse throughout all of the cabins.

"It's a really nice thing to come and wander through, and take a break from the busy beach and the heat, to come look at some art. It's all Saskatchewan artists, everyone has something different to offer so it's a nice variety."

Barsi said she enjoys being a part of the event every summer because of the environment.

"I love the serenity. Although it can be really busy, it's quiet and peaceful, I'm very inspired there," she said.

"In the past six years I've found myself painting a lot, that's why I'm thinking I'll be able to get a lot more pieces done just because it's so inspiring there."



Eli Barsi at the Artists Colony of Moose Mountain Provincial Park. Photo by: Prairie Girl Gallery & Gifts the Art of Eli Barsi.



Above is the Chalet at Moose Mountain Provincial Park, where the art cabins, of the Artists Colony is located right beside it.

Daryl Harrison

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Moosomin welcomes second medical resident to town

Continued from page 3
"If not in Moosomin, I want to practice in other rural communities in Saskatchewan, if they would accept me after."

Asence was asked if she thinks resident doctors consider practicing rurally or generally choose the city. "I can't say for sure about Canadian medical graduates about their preferences, but I guess it depends on the lifestyle that the student is used to, and if they would be at home with a rural practice," she said.

"We do know that it's not any different from the city training, if not we get more hands-on experience here (rurally) as a family physician."

"As the other doctors have mentioned, we're the first line to see the patients, and sometimes, the only ones to see the patients in town because there's no specialists nearby."

"I'm actually surprised that the first few calls I've had, of how diverse the cases here have been."

"I think I'm going to see a lot of interesting cases

here and learn a lot from the doctors who are here."

How does the residency program work?

Foy explained how the residency training program works in Moosomin at the Southeast Integrated Care Centre (SEICC), and clinics within the region.

"We oversee residents, their supervisor might even be in the room with them, and work with them more at an end of medical school type of level," Foy said.

"As we make sure the resident learns our EMR, learns our practice styles, then we start to lengthen that leash, and the resident will start to see patients more independently."

"They're always reviewing their patients with a preceptor, sometimes it's directly after the encounter, but towards as they get into second year of residency then they might go through the whole half day and review all of the patients at the end of the half day."

"As well, of course, being able to check with a supervisor in the mean time if they have any concerns or issues."

"We gradually lengthen that leash until the end of residency when they're, hopefully, confident enough to go out and practice independently."

"I'm very amazed with the program. It's a very hands-on program," Asence added.

"The physicians really guide me and show me the ropes, especially because I'm new to the system. As Dr. Foy said, it's more learner based, most of the physicians are meeting me where I'm at right now and are showing me the ropes."

Benefits of Moosomin offering medical residency training

With Moosomin being one of the host communities in the province for the Family Residency Training Program, Foy said it brings many benefits to the community.

"I think it's a drawing

feature especially for incoming physicians," said Foy.

"Lots of doctors do like to teach, especially some of the newer generation physicians who might have just finished residency, who like to pass on that knowledge, so do the older ones."

"It sets Moosomin apart from some of the other communities that don't

have a residency program. It solidifies our place as being a community that provides high level care. I think it's a recruitment and retention perk, hopefully."

Foy was asked if Moosomin is one of the few communities with a population of around 3,000 people in Canada where you can take a residency program.

"There's not many communities this small that

have their own residency program," she said. "La Ronge is kind of the only small place in Saskatchewan where you can take a residency program. In Alberta, I don't think any of the small communities have them. In Manitoba, Brandon has it, but Brandon's big. There's not many very small communities that have residency programs."

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Moe says CT Scanner being looked at for Moosomin

"I think all will be inspired by the dedication and drive that a young guy like Levi has in already fundraising for a valuable service like the CT Scanner."
—Premier Scott Moe

BY ASHLEY BOCHEK

Saskatchewan Premier Scott Moe says he believes people will be inspired by the dedication and drive of Moosomin's Levi Jamieson.

Levi, a 17-year-old, has managed to adapt and to farm without the use of his legs and he gave a portion of the proceeds from his 4-H calf this year to the CT Scanner Fund in Moosomin.

The World-Spectator published an article on Levi on July 31, and on August 1 asked the premier for his reaction to the story on Levi.

"Incredible," Moe said.

"Incredible effort by Levi and ultimately his family and friends and the people in the community of Moosomin. Thank you, Levi, is what I would say.

"There's a process to go through, in this case for a CT scanner in a community. We went through a process like that in Melfort for example. I believe Estevan, if I remember correctly, was another community that we had added a CT scanner to over the last number of years.

"There's also opportunities for private investment in that space but there is a process for requests to come through in Moosomin, through the SHA and ultimately through to the budget cycle that governments in the Saskatchewan Health Authority go through, but at the end of the day, what an inspiring effort by Levi.

"My hat is off to him and most certainly we're keep-



Premier Scott Moe answers a question from the World-Spectator's Ashley Bochek about Moosomin's CT Scanner proposal.

ing our eye on this project as it finds its way through that process."

The premier said the province needs to look at additional health care services in growing communities like Moosomin.

"Our health care services are paramount and actually support everything with the investment and growth of our communities. We need to ensure that a) we have the health services that we traditionally have had in those communities and it's this government's commitment that we are not reducing those services in virtually any community and b) we need to constantly be looking at what additional services are necessary in a community like Moosomin, of which we just discussed is growing in population.

"The entire region is growing due to the development of the natural resource industry in that space.

"We're always willing and ready to look at adding services to communities like Moosomin. We went through a very similar path in Melfort where we did add a CT scanner into the hospital facility there and a similar path in Estevan—two relatively similar sized communities where we have gone through that process, the decision making process, which is part of the budgeting process of the Government of Saskatchewan and the Saskatchewan Health Authority. I think all will be inspired by the dedication and drive that a young guy like Levi has in already fundraising for a valuable service like the CT Scanner. So it will be looked at in the due course of the budgeting process of the government and the SHA."

Moe says province must support new investment

"We need to support the industries that are creating wealth in those communities, creating wealth for our province, and ultimately that are allowing us to make decisions like funding a hospital here in Esterhazy."
—Premier Scott Moe

BY SIERRA D'SOUZA BUTTS

LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

During a stop in Esterhazy on Aug. 1, Premier Scott Moe says the province has to keep supporting new investment in southeast Saskatchewan as the region grows.

Growth is happening in several communities in the southeast. Moosomin for example is expanding their water treatment plant to accommodate population growth up to 4,600 people, Esterhazy is now moving forward with a new health centre to serve the region, with funding announced in the provincial budget this spring.

The premier was asked if there is anything more the government can do to support this growth in southeast Saskatchewan.

"I think we need to continue down the path that we are on, and one is supporting the economic investment under the various industries that we have, whether it's ag value added or whether it's the potash industry.

"Ultimately we see some of our energy now transitioning to some degree into the lithium market. So we need to support the industries that are creating wealth in those communities, creating wealth for our province and ultimately that are allowing us to make decisions like funding a hospital here in Esterhazy, like funding schools in community after community throughout, not only the southeastern part of our province, but across the province.

"Those investments don't come without a growing and vibrant economy. That is providing that opportunity for families and thereby providing opportunities for communities to invest alongside, not only the provincial government, but the federal

government as well."

The premier also spoke about the importance of the mining industry to the province.

"It's of paramount importance," he said. "All of our natural resources that are located in rural areas of the province are really just that—natural resources that are sitting idle until people actually come and mine those products, produce those products and use our agricultural land to its fullest advantage of producing food.

"It's people that really bring value to the natural resources that we have and I often say this is the great synergy that we have in this province between rural Saskatchewan, our most rural areas, and our most urban centres, our villages, our towns, our cities."

"It's people that live in Esterhazy, that live in Moosomin, that live in Estevan, that ultimately are able to bring that natural resource value to life, create those jobs and develop those resources whether it be ag land, whether it be energy or whether it be mine products like potash that is very large in this part of the world.

"We get into the northern areas of the province and uranium is the basis of employment there. So mining is paramount to the success of Saskatchewan and I would say that it isn't possible without the innovative people that we have, and there's no better example of that than right here in Esterhazy."

The premier was asked if there is more the government can do to encourage that growth to continue.

"I think we're positioning ourselves well, in particular when you look at where we are globally in a post-pandemic world,

where we are globally with the Russian invasion of Ukraine, how different supply chains—people, countries, industries—are looking at their supply chains, not only in the scope of what is the cost of the product, what is the quality of the product and how does that product produce, but whether or not they're actually producing from an allied safe nation that will be able to provide that potash fertilizer, that agri-food product or ingredients or the energy into the future.

"The supply chains are changing

around the world and I think that's why we're positioned so well provincially as the province of Saskatchewan with our nine international trade and investment offices that not only secure those markets for the products that we sell to over 150 countries each and every year, but they're also attracting some of that investment to further develop our resources and invest ultimately into the people of Saskatchewan that live here today and the people that are on their way to live here with their families tomorrow."



Premier Scott Moe answers a question from the World-Spectator's Sierra D'Souza Butts about investment to accommodate growth in southeast Saskatchewan.

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Michelle Newton and her mares Anne and Grace during their run at the World Clydesdale Show in Brandon.

Michelle Newton wins Chore Team Competition at World Clydesdale Show

BY KARA KINNA

Michelle Newton from the Moosomin area and her mares Anne and Grace are world champions after winning the chore team competition at the World Clydesdale Show in Brandon, Manitoba July 19-23.

It is the first time that the show—usually held in the U.S.—has come so close to home for Newton, so she knew she needed to enter. Newton has been working with Clydesdales for the past eight years, and has won the competition at Agribition in Regina for the last two years.

"I don't know if the world show has ever been this close and I don't know if it will ever be back," she says. "With the opportunity to go to a World Clydesdale Show so close, you pretty much had to go because it would be on the bucket list. It was crazy to get there but it was awesome to be there.

"It's held all over the United States and the last one in North America was held in Madison and the next one is in Springfield, Illinois, in 2025. So I don't know if it will ever be that close again."

Newton was not raised with Clydesdales but says she has always wanted to work with them.

"I was raised with light horses and I've always wanted a team, and then the opportunity came up after I had kids. I got a team eight years ago and that's kind of all I do now."

Newton didn't start competing with her horses right away.

"It came later," she says. "It was more of a challenge on how to ride better, really, is what it comes down to. I started doing competitions about six years ago so it wasn't long after I got my team started, and I did things like Agribition and harvest showdowns."

What does she love about the horses? "They are kind and forgiving and patient. That's mostly what it is. They're just so easygoing," she says.

Competing at the world show

Newton says the world show is open to anyone to compete.

"You can just go and compete. You enter, pay your entry fee and enter whatever classes you want. There were different classes there. At the world show you have



Michelle Newton, at right, with a ribbon and a chair after winning the World Clydesdale Show in Brandon, Manitoba.

riding classes, hitch classes, halter classes, and then they had chore. There was no chore competition at Madison so it was a good addition to have in Brandon and it was a lot of fun.

"We entered a few of the other competitions but they were more pleasure classes. My youngest did a barrel racing competition on one of them, a costume class, and then an obstacle cart class. There were lots of different opportunities to enter instead of just the big show and it was a good experience.

"There were 18 in the Chore Competition. Agribition had 12 of all breeds and this was just Clydesdales. The competition was good, it was awesome and there was a high level of competition. I'm not sure what the final number of all the horses was in Brandon, but they were talking over 350 head of Clydesdales in Brandon. It was a really good show."

Newton says there is a lot of time preparing her horses for a show like this.

"How I do it—I drive," she says. "You have to make time to drive and work with

them on wagons and skids, work with them on precision driving, and work on standing still. Every sport has its thing, right? So you don't just catch them from the pasture and take them to the world show, you do a lot of driving and you put on a lot of miles."

For those not familiar with a chore competition, there are a number of tasks that the team must complete in order to be successful.

"How this competition was set up was you hook through a skid or a stone boat and you pull weight. Then you hook to a wagon and you have to do some tight driving," says Newton. "You're in a keyhole and you have to get out of that keyhole in a tight space with the wagon. Then you have to drive your team through a tight alley and then do a figure eight pattern, which the closer you get to the pylons without running them over, the more points you get. Then there's delivering the mail and you have to back up on a really small wheel-based wagon, make a turn and then you have to dock to

a station and do some fanning. Then you have to go back to your keyhole and you have to unhook from the wagon without the assistance of a helper. You do have a helper in case some things go wrong, you do have that option of help, but you lose points if you use your helper."

Michelle says her run at the world show went relatively smoothly.

"I had a small hiccup in the beginning, but then my team settled down and just kind of went into a groove. We've won Agribition the last two years so I was nervous for the fact that I wanted to do really well. I don't know if I ever thought that I would be the top, because there's a lot of good competition there, so a small hiccup could bump you down.

"I think most competitions that you go to, you never know what's going to happen. You are dealing with horses and they can humble you very quickly, so you just have to do your best and prepare to do the best you can so that on the day of the competition everything clicks together. They are animals and they have their own mind, so you just have to do a lot of work, and on the day of the competition everything needs to go exactly as planned."

How big of a deal was it for Newton to win the world show?

"Oh it's huge," she says. "It's a huge accomplishment to get a world title."

Newton says she is planning to continue to compete with her team.

"We need a few days off to recover, that's for sure—get some sleep and rest, and absolutely we will continue. I'm not sure when the next event is going to be, but they're popping up and becoming more popular, so a lot of the smaller communities are now trying to start chore competitions, which is amazing to see."

Newton says she plans to be at Agribition again with her team as well.

"It depends on how everything goes but that's the goal. I may even start a new team because I have a young team that I want to start and I think it's time that I start those ones," she says.

How excited was she to win the world show?

"It was so awesome and it was an amazing experience to even be involved in a world class show," she says. "Then to be able to take home a title is pretty amazing. It means that all of your hard work clicked together and it paid off."



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Dauphin's 12-acre greenhouse finishes Phase 1

BY SIERRA D'SOUZA BUTTS
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER
After eight years of organizing and developing the 12 acre greenhouse in Dauphin—the first greenhouse of its size on the Prairies—Vermillion Growers was proud to see their vision come to light.

The company held the grand opening for the facility on July 27, and had over 200 people in attendance.

"I think the grand opening exceeded all expectations from our entire team," said Maria Deschauer, managing director of Vermillion Growers.

"We just loved opening it up to our community of investors, as well as suppliers, and interested parties, and economic development of course.

"We're just ecstatic that we're at this point, and that the energy is high. Everyone was moving like crazy to make sure the facility was ready, and we're ready to accept plans for September 4. We're very excited."

The greenhouse will produce 10 million pounds of tomatoes within the next year.

The idea for building a greenhouse in the rural community of Dauphin started with Deschauer's brother, who is also the founder of Vermillion Growers, Lucky Deschauer.

"Lucky's always been passionate about food production and greenhouse design ever since he was actually quite young," said Deschauer.

"About eight years ago he presented the idea that maybe this is something we want to consider for Dauphin and for Manitoba, to bring our central Canada a little bit more in tune with the rest of the world. In terms of local food production with controlled environment growing.

"Lucky was really the visionary on it, but of course beyond the visionary you need the other key players. He convinced the rest of the team to jump on board, which initially was Mark Kohan, our CFO, and myself.

"We ended up doing research, initially starting in Manitoba, having to branch out a bit further leaning into the Ontario area, and branched out a little bit further into the Netherlands to ensure that we were deciding on the right structure and



Vermillion Growers officially announced the opening of their 12 acre tomato greenhouse in Dauphin, MB on July 27. Kevin Weedmark photo

the right designs for our facility here in Dauphin."

All of the equipment used to construct and install the greenhouse came from the Netherlands.

Deschauer said the greenhouse was initially planned to be much smaller than its current size.

"The original plan, I think, was for two acres and then as we started engaging with different consultants we realized that for the amount of infrastructure we needed to put in place, two acres is too small. It's not financially viable," said Deschauer.

"We found that 10 acres is just on the verge of making sense. Our goal now is to have 70 acres on this site.

"This first 10 acres is a great start, and we can envision now how we can expand the site out to 70 acres over the next few years."

Plans to expand greenhouse to 70 acres soon

With plans to expand the greenhouse

up to 70 acres, Deschauer said Vermillion Growers will be able to employ around 200 full-time employees.

"Next year we're going to add five acres, so maybe in four years we're hoping to be at that point of 70 acres," said Deschauer.

"Everything needs to be working well, and of course we need to start working with other members of the Dauphin community to ensure that there's housing.

"All of the different infrastructure needs are very important as we expand to support our employees, and housing will be a big one."

She was asked if housing employees will be a challenge in the future.

"As we expand we'll be able to leverage our existing building expansion financially," said Deschauer.

Continued on page 23



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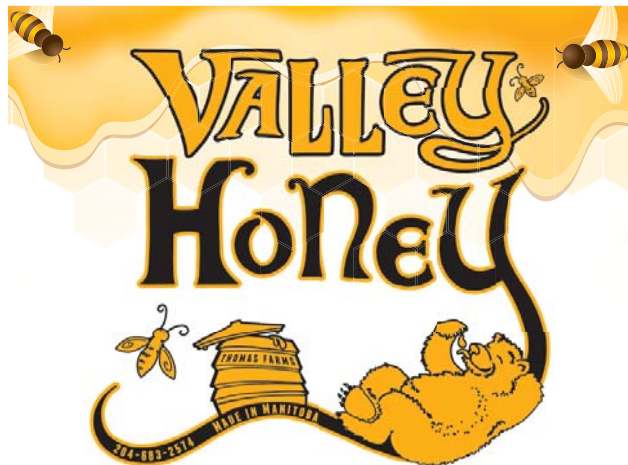
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The Stonehouse Family's float in the parade.

Over a thousand people attend Elkhorn Homecoming and Western Weekend

BY ED JAMES

The Elkhorn Homecoming and Western Weekend events on the August long weekend were blessed with perfect weather that resulted in the attendance of over 1,000 people.

The double event was a great example of co-operation, talent and work between The Homecoming Committee and The Elkhorn Elks Club that showed itself throughout the weekend.

Some of the highlights over the weekend included a street carnival, opening ceremonies, chariot and chuckwagon races, a concert and dance featuring Elkhorn's very own rising star Kendra Kay, a parade, kids activities, a show and shine, historical tours, a Memorial Park dedication ceremony, a strawberry social, a teddy bear picnic, a slo pitch tournament, fireworks, pancake breakfasts, and a pitch fork fondue supper.

In the months of preparation that led up

to the events, there were several improvements made to the village that will stay behind as legacy items.

Registration numbers at the Homecoming Centre showed that over 600 families registered for the weekend.

Homecoming Committee Chair Wenda Paton and Elks Western Weekend Chair Kevin Tutthill both agreed that it was a successful combined community weekend.

They said that they were both so pleased and amazed at the many ways the two groups worked together and by the many hours of efforts given by community members, groups and businesses, adding they could have not done it without all of the willing help.

Congratulations Elkhorn, you made for a great family weekend. Both events brought together old friends, neighbors and new friends over the weekend, creating lots of memories.



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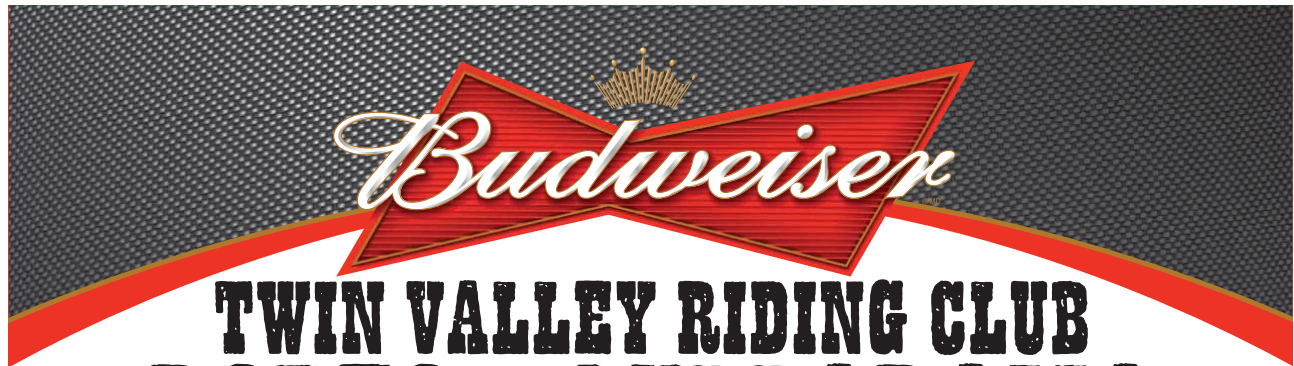
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Plain & Valley

August 2023 • Page 21

Covering Southeast Saskatchewan and Southwest Manitoba



Farmers in southeast Sask say dry conditions have affected crop quality

BY SIERRA D'SOUZA BUTTS
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Farmers in southeast Saskatchewan have noticed their crops being impacted by the recent drought across the Prairies.

Kyran Foy who farms outside of Red Jacket and Fairlight spoke about how the dry weather conditions within his farming area.

"It's been pretty dry. We haven't had a significant rain since early June," said Foy.

"I don't even know what our total rainfall is in a lot of those areas, but some of them would be less than three inches for growing since we seeded.

"It's pretty dry, but it looks like the crops are hanging in not too bad for most part in a lot of our areas. It's going to be tough to say how it will be come harvest time."

Foy was asked if more rain was to come within the next week or two if it would help the crops.

"Not for a lot of crops, for a lot of crops it's too late like most of the wheat, or any earlier crops," he said.

"A bit of rain right away might help some of the later seeded canola crops, or anyone who has wheat. It just looks like we're going to be in a heat wave here with the forecast showing no rain in sight."

Based on how the quality of crops look, Foy said he thinks a lot of farmers will be applying for crop insurance. "I think harvest will be slightly below average. I think there will be a lot of crop insurance claims," he said.

"Because numbers have been pretty good over the last few years and now we're going to be below that, people will be making claims."

Dry conditons north of Moosomin

Within the Moosomin area, soil conditions have been more dry north of the RM of Moosomin compared to the south, said Trevor Green, farmer in the Moosomin area.

"Mainly because the southern part did get a few of the rains when that two inch rain came through the Town of Moosomin, it kind of stretched out, but if you get into the northern part closer to Welwyn, I think they're in a tougher situation down there than we are."

Green said farmers in some areas were able to get enough rain for their crops, while others are still in need of a good rainfall.

"Basically right now it's who caught the rain and who missed them because it's so sporadic this year," said Green.

"The field looks good here, then you drive over two miles and it's terrible. It all depends on who caught the rain and who missed them, for some people it's one part of their field and the other is going to be the difference. It's going to be very variable this year.

"I don't think it's going to be an outstanding crop, it's just too dry and not enough timely rain."

He was asked if he thinks farmers will have to rely on crop insurance after harvest this year.

"We have had some good crops in this area, people's average yields were fairly decent and now if they're going to be down there's definitely going to be some crop insurance claims," said Green.

"Anyone who had rainfall insurance on their corn is probably going to claim this year because corn definitely needed more rain than what we've had.

"Best case scenario I would say average to below average for crop yield this year.

"It's going to be the quality that's going to be tough too. When you get drier conditions the barley is generally lighter, the wheat is lighter, and with the grain commission change for the rules on test weights—APAS has actually lobbied the government to get those rules changed by August 1—is just another attack on the grain farmers that we don't really need right now in a tougher year."

Lack of moisture for crops in Moosomin area

Mark McCorriston, grain farmer from the Moosomin and Rocanville area, said crops have suffered because of the dry weather conditions.

"I would say they have been desperately dry," said McCorriston.

Continued on page 24



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- SEPTEMBER 2023 -

5	Tuesday	Regular Sale	9 a.m.
15	Friday	Presort Sale	9:30 a.m.
25	Monday	Cow & Bull Sale	8:00 a.m.
29	Friday	Presort Sale	9:30 a.m.

- OCTOBER 2023 -

6	Friday	Presort Sale	9:30 a.m.
6	Friday	Sheep/Goat/Horse/Tack	5 p.m.
9	Monday	Cow & Bull Sale	8 a.m.
13	Friday	Presort Sale - Simmental	9:30 a.m.
20	Friday	Presort Sale - Charolais	9:30 a.m.
23	Monday	Cow & Bull Sale	8 a.m.
27	Friday	Presort Sale - Angus	9:30 a.m.

- NOVEMBER 2023 -

3	Friday	Presort Sale	9:30 a.m.
6	Monday	Cow & Bull Sale	8 a.m.
10	Friday	Presort Sale	9:30 a.m.
17	Friday	Presort Sale	9:30 a.m.
20	Monday	Cow & Bull Sale	8 a.m.
24	Friday	Presort Sale	9:30 a.m.

- DECEMBER 2023 -

1	Friday	Presort Sale	9:30 a.m.
4	Monday	Bred Cow/HFR Sale	12 p.m.
5	Tuesday	Regular Sale	9 a.m.
15	Friday	Last Chance Presort Sale	9:30 a.m.
18	Monday	Bred Cow/HFR Sale	12 p.m.
18	Monday	Butcher Cows & Bulls	to follow

- SEPTEMBER 2023 -

6	Wednesday	Presort Sale	9:30 a.m.
13	Wednesday	Regular Sale	9 a.m.
18	Monday	Cow & Bull Sale	8 a.m.
20	Wednesday	Presort Sale	9:30 a.m.
21	Thursday	Sheep, Horse & Tack	5 p.m.
27	Wednesday	Presort Sale	9:30 a.m.

- OCTOBER 2023 -

2	Monday	Cow & Bull Sale	8 a.m.
4	Wednesday	Presort Sale	9:30 a.m.
11	Wednesday	Presort Sale - Simmental	9:30 a.m.
16	Monday	Cow & Bull Sale	8 a.m.
18	Wednesday	Presort Sale - Charolais	9:30 a.m.
25	Wednesday	Presort Sale - Angus	9:30 a.m.
30	Monday	Cow & Bull Sale	8 a.m.

- NOVEMBER 2023 -

1	Wednesday	Presort Sale - Speckle Park, Shorthorn	9:30 a.m.
8	Wednesday	Presort Sale	9:30 a.m.
13	Monday	Cow & Bull Sale	8 a.m.
15	Wednesday	Presort Sale	9:30 a.m.
22	Wednesday	Regular Sale	9 a.m.
25	Saturday	Season Opener Bred Cow Sale	12 p.m.
27	Monday	Cow & Bull Sale	8 a.m.
29	Wednesday	Presort Sale	9:30 a.m.

- DECEMBER 2023 -

2	Saturday	Bred Cow Extravaganza Sale	12 p.m.
6	Wednesday	Regular Sale	9 a.m.
9	Saturday	Bred Cow Classic	12 p.m.
13	Wednesday	Last Chance Presort Sale	9:30 a.m.
19	Tuesday	Bred Cow/HFR Sale	12 p.m.
20	Wednesday	Butcher Cows & Bulls	9 a.m.



BRENNIN JACK
GENERAL MANAGER
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Dauphin's 12-acre greenhouse finishes Phase 1

Continued from page 17

"Of course we will actually have to recruit employees, so employee retention could be a challenge and beyond that, employee housing.

"We're hoping that more houses and more apartments will be built in Dauphin. We're working in trying to improve that gap as well."

One of the biggest challenges for developing the facility was funding the project, said Deschauer.

"The capital expenditure is quite large for this kind of facility. That's been on the largest hurdles to pass to get this facility up and running," she said.

"The other hurdles are location, there aren't very many greenhouse builders in Manitoba or central Canada anywhere. Just to get on the list to get someone to come out and actually build this facility, and produce this facility, was also a challenge."

The total investment towards the development and equipment of the site was just under \$40 million.

"We anticipated this project would be about \$32 million. We're probably pushing about \$36 to \$37 million at the moment, and that's just for the building and the infrastructure," Deschauer said.

"Then of course for the equipment inside, it was another few million dollars on top of that. Rough figure for everything, alterations and everything that we needed was probably closer to \$40 million for this project."

Deschauer said having investors, applying for grants, and local businesses being involved helped contribute to the project.

"We had private funding, we also had traditional bank financing. We partnered with the Bank of Montreal who stepped up and wanted to be a part of this project," she said.

"They are quite huge in the ag industry and also in the greenhouse world. They are a perfect fit for us.

"Of course we have founders money here. We also have investment money from the community members. Through the province of Manitoba, the provincial government offers a small business capital program and that allows Vermillion



The greenhouse will produce 10 million pounds of tomatoes within the next year.

Growers to offer shares within our company that the province would then provide our investors with a 45 per cent tax credit, meaning that if someone invests \$100,000, the province would provide them with a tax credit of \$45,000 to go against paid or payable."

Deschauer said Manitoba's Small Business Venture Capital Tax Credit (SBVCTC) program made a huge difference for helping Vermillion Growers secure local investment.

"Right now we're probably close to \$3.7 million of what we raised through private investors," she said.

"The Manitoba tax credit was a huge advantage for people jumping on board because they knew it reduced the amount of their money at risk because more than likely they'll end up getting that 45 per cent back right away."

Next steps for selling produce, and expanding

With produce expected to start growing by fall, Vermillion Growers said they have already lined up their distributors.

"All of our product is being purchased by Red Sun Farms. They are a large distributor out of the Kingsville, Ontario area," said Deschauer.

"All of our supply chains are secured

through them. We expect to see our product in local Superstores, as well as Co-op stores under the brand of Red Sun Farms

grown in Manitoba by Vermillion Growers."

Deschauer said she cannot wait to walk into a store and see her own product on the shelves.

"I'm sure all of us are going to have our phones out taking pictures and sending it to our friends and family," she said smiling.

She spoke about what is in the future for Vermillion Growers.

"Next summer we're hoping to add another five acres, but we are also very committed to this industry now," Deschauer said.

"The world of agriculture is so important, and controlled Ag would just be a future in that for our court team.

"Once we are done developing the Dauphin site we will be looking at potentially expanding to other places as well, but we don't want to jump the gun.

"We have to get this facility up and running first, then we'll start looking around."

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USask wheat breeder earns province's highest honour

BY USASK CROP DEVELOPMENT CENTRE
Dr. Pierre Hucl (PhD) has been named a 2023 Saskatchewan Order of Merit recipient in recognition of his remarkable contributions to crop development and research.

A professor and plant breeder in the Department of Plant Sciences and Crop Development Centre (CDC) in the College of Agriculture and Bioresources (AgBio) at the University of Saskatchewan (USask), Hucl's expertise in bread wheat, specialty wheats, and canaryseed breeding and genetics has revolutionized farming practices and enhanced food security across Western Canada.

Hucl's exceptional career as a world-recognized plant breeder and researcher, combined with his unwavering commitment to mentorship and volunteer service, embodies the essence of the Saskatchewan Order of Merit.

Established in 1985, the Saskatchewan Order of Merit—the province's highest honour—celebrates excellence and achievement by Saskatchewan citizens. Hucl, along with five other recipients, will be invested with the order at a ceremony in Saskatoon on September 27, 2023.

Throughout his distinguished career, Hucl's dedication to science and breeding of bread wheat, canaryseed and other crop lines for short-season regions of Western Canada has resulted in the release of more than 40 new crop varieties. These varieties have not only reinforced western Canadian agriculture but also played a pivotal role in the region's value-added industry, contributing to billions of dollars in farm-gate receipts.

A notable achievement for Hucl—who held the Strategic Research Program Chair in Canada Western Red Spring (CWRS) Wheat, Specialty Wheats, and Canaryseed Breeding and Genetics for 33 years—is the development and release of the first hairless canaryseed variety. This groundbreaking innovation not only established Saskatchewan as a global leader in producing and exporting canaryseed, but also opened doors to a growing market due to the seed's health benefits. The hairless canaryseed varieties developed by Hucl made harvesting and processing easier by eliminating the tiny, sharp spikes from the hull, which are a major skin and lung irritant.



Dr. Pierre Hucl (PhD) is a professor and plant breeder in the Department of Plant Sciences and Crop Development Centre.

Christina Weese photo

Hucl's impact on food security has been profound, with his wheat varieties demonstrating improved yields, disease resistance, and qualities specifically tailored for the baking industry. His research focuses on breeding wheat varieties that are highly resistant to the wheat disease Fusarium Head Blight (FHB), which poses a threat to the worldwide wheat market due to the harmful mycotoxin found in infected wheat kernels. By developing FHB-resistant varieties, Hucl played a role in ensuring the safety and quality of wheat products for both domestic and international consumers.

Saskatchewan, accounting for nearly 44 per cent of Canada's total spring wheat area, has embraced Hucl's wheat varieties, with his strains being planted on approximately 2.4 million acres of farmland annually. One such variety, CDC Teal, earned the prestigious Seed of the Year award in 2016, further highlighting the substantial impact of Hucl's work on the agri-food industry.

Hucl's passion for innovative breeding approaches extends beyond wheat. He has ventured into ancient and heritage grains, popular among Saskatchewan's organic and urban agricultural sectors. As Canada's sole spelt

wheat breeder, he has recently developed and released three new spelt wheat varieties. Spelt wheat, particularly when consumed as a whole grain, boasts numerous essential amino acids, vitamins, and minerals that support a healthy gut microbiota and human health.

Moreover, his forward-thinking approach and adoption of cutting-edge technologies have streamlined wheat breeding processes, significantly reducing the time it takes to release new wheat varieties. By leveraging DNA testing technologies, Hucl "pyramids" multiple disease and insect resistance genes into his latest strains, resulting in durable resistance and reducing the need for synthetic fungicides and insecticides in farmers' fields.

For nearly 25 years, Hucl served as an advisor for the Saskatchewan Seed Growers Association, earning him honorary life memberships in both the Saskatchewan Seed Growers Association and the Canadian Seed Growers Association. He also actively participated in several management boards, including the Crop Production Show Executive Committee, the Prairie Grain Development Committee, and the Canaryseed Association of Canada.

Hucl has also been a teacher and mentor. As a renowned and highly published scientist, Hucl's influence extends to the next generation of plant breeders. Throughout his career, he has mentored and trained numerous undergraduate and post-graduate students, cultivating future leaders in the agricultural industry.

For his contributions, Hucl has been decorated with numerous prestigious awards. In 2019, Hucl was awarded the CSTA Plant Breeding & Genetics Award, a testament to his exceptional contributions to the field. In 2014, he was honoured with a SABEX award for his innovation in the agricultural industry, recognizing his pioneering work that elevated the agricultural landscape. In 2017, he was named a Fellow of the Canadian Society of Agronomy, and in June of 2023, received the Distinguished Agronomist Award from the same society in recognition of his outstanding contributions to agronomy. He also received the College of AgBio's Research Excellence Award for his leading research in wheat and canaryseed breeding.

Farmers in southeast Sask. say dry conditions have affected crop quality

Continued from page 21

"Rocanville did get a lighter rain, but there was drier earlier on. The Moosomin and Rocanville area, I would say, is extremely dry."

If it were to rain in the next week or two then some crops would still come out well, said McCorrison.

"I feel like the fate is sealed for the wheat crop and the barley crop, but if the canola can get rain in the next few days then that would be good," he said.

"I've been keeping my fingers crossed that we are going to get rain in the next few days for a couple weeks now, and it's just never happened."

"It's just super disappointing. It seems like the forecast shows we'll get rain in two

or three days then it just never happens."

With a great start to the season, McCorrison said it is unfortunate to see the crops not flourish as well as he had hoped.

"I'm definitely concerned, I don't think it's going to be a bumper crop," said McCorrison.

"Honestly it's super disappointing because the potential for an awesome crop was there at the beginning of the year."

"We had excellent germination, we had good moisture starting out this season, and the canola came on really good. We didn't have bug pressures or other problems that we experienced in the past, but then we just had a lack of moisture."

"I honestly can't recall when we had a good rain, I would say it's been near a

couple of months ago. Then all season long we've never had a real good generalized rain, it was always spotty showers so one field might have got a good bit of rain, but the next one misses it."

"I just can't remember the last time when the farm trucks were dirty because the roads were muddy. It just seems like it's been forever since we've had a rain."

"I think you can see it when you look at people's lawns in town who don't water their grass, they've all browned up."

"Unfortunately it's not good, and it's also starting to push the pastures where the livestock are to the maximum to the grass. It's just browning off, it's not growing anymore."

"The pastures are really starting to experience a drought stress as well. Some of

the grasslands have grasshoppers on them now. It's unfortunate. It's been a disappointing summer."

Although crops are not in the best condition, McCorrison said he does not think a lot of farmers in the Moosomin area will have to make insurance claims at the end of the season.

"I would say it's going to be border line. Crop insurance is there to keep you afloat," he said. "The crops have to be pretty poor before you can get into a crop insurance claim position."

"In the Moosomin and surrounding area, we're definitely better than other places in the province. Saskatchewan definitely has other areas that are experiencing it far worse."

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New USask funding to advance Canada's beef sector

Dr. Antonio Facciuolo (PhD) from the Vaccine and Infectious Disease Organization (VIDO) at the University of Saskatchewan (USask) has new support to develop a vaccine against John's disease—a chronic intestinal disease of cattle that is significant to both the beef and dairy industry.

Facciuolo is one of five scientists at USask awarded funding from the Beef Cattle Research Council (BCRC) under the newly announced Canada's Beef and Forage AgriScience Cluster.

The USask-led projects, totalling \$3,107,317, will help bolster the beef sector's environmental and economic sustainability. The research will focus on improving cow-calf health and productivity, breeding climate-resistant forages, studying the Canadian feed-lot industry, managing cattle diseases, and advancing gut health research.

"Agriculture is a signature area of research at USask and we are committed to advancing research that will create sustainable growth in this area," said USask Vice-President Research Baljit Singh. "The funding announced by BCRC will allow us to drive innovation and make meaningful contributions that will bring great value to the beef industry."

John's disease, caused by the bacterium *Mycobacterium paratuberculosis* (MAP), is a contagious and lifelong infection that eventually progresses to severe inflammation of the small intestine in



Dr. Antonio Facciuolo (PhD) will receive \$264,960 from BCRC to advance the development of a vaccine against MAP.

Dave Stobbe photo

cattle. It is estimated the disease causes annual industry-wide losses of \$17-28 million USD. Vaccines are not currently available in Canada.

Facciuolo, who has collaborators at the University of Calgary and Simon Fra-

ser University, will receive \$264,960 from BCRC to advance the development of a vaccine against MAP.

"I'm excited to build on our previous work which established an infection and vaccine screening model for John's dis-

ease," said Facciuolo, one of VIDO's newest scientists who is also affiliated with the Western College of Veterinary Medicine at USask. "This funding will support the next steps in vaccine research and ultimately towards the development of a vaccine that can protect against this chronic and economically important disease."

The team will test oral and injectable vaccine formulations using antigens identified in a previous project. Based on their findings they will select the combination that provides the best overall protection to help control this disease.

The following USask projects were also recipients of support under Canada's Beef and Forage AgriScience Cluster:

- Bill Biligetu (PhD) — \$201,680. Breeding climate-resilient forage germplasm for the Canadian beef industry: a national collaboration.
- Greg Penner (PhD) — \$961,859. Reconsidering treatment strategies: can we accelerate recovery from disease by considering gut health?
- Gabriel Ribeiro (PhD) — \$300,468. A benchmark study of the Canadian feedlot industry and an evaluation of best management practices (BMPs) to improve the sustainability of feedlots.
- Cheryl Waldner (PhD) — \$1,378,350. The Canadian Cow-Calf Health and Productivity Enhancement Network (C3H/PEN).

FCC offers assistance to farmers potentially impacted by drought

BY SIERRA D'SOUZA BUTTS
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Farm Credit Canada (FCC) has opened its doors to farmers in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba who are facing, or potentially may face, financial hardship due to dry conditions impacting crop quality and grazing lands.

"Some producers would know that their production is going to be challenged this year. There's been some significant drought in Saskatchewan and much of Western Canada," said Shannon Weatherall, Vice-President of Operations at FCC.

"We're encouraging people to come in whether they're sure they are going to need some assistance, or whether they're not sure, to come talk to our team, to come into the office or speak with their relationship manager.

"Even call our customer service centre and talk about their individual situation and options, and then we can come up with solutions to reduce the financial pressure that they might be feeling."

Although harvesting is still a month away, Weatherall said they decided to announce their assistance to help reduce the stress of a lot of farmers.

"Part of it too is for those who are unsure, they can come in and have a conversation about what might be possible, and then they can also see how it plays out and know they've had that conversation before," she said.

"There's a bit of stress with the uncertainty, and we're big proponents in terms of mental health in agriculture.

"Some of it too is knowing that there is that support and that willingness to work with them to make sure they have that cash flow to get into the next production cycle. That's where we want to be, is to support our customers."

Weatherall spoke about the areas in Saskatchewan and Manitoba where farmers have been impacted the most because of the drought.

"There's various drought all across Western Canada. I'm senior vice-president of operations for Saskatchewan and Manitoba, there's certainly droughts in Saskatchewan, southwestern Saskatchewan in particular is very dry," she said.

"But other areas in Saskatchewan and Manitoba would have below average precipitation this year in a state of drought as well. For some producers it's multiple years in a row with below average precipitation which is a challenge."

What type of assistance will Farm Credit Canada offer?

Weatherall spoke about the different ways Farm Credit Canada would help support producers.

"We'll work with cus-

tomers based on their individual situations, but some of those solutions we have will be considering deferral of their principal payments, or other loan schedule amendments, just to reduce that financial pressure and ensure producers have cash flow to move forward," she said.

FCC's main focus is to help provide financial assistance and resources to farmers ahead of harvesting time, so that they know the support is there if needed, said Weatherall.

"The weather has been a challenge for some areas, more eastern Saskatchewan than Manitoba. They actually, for three years, were faced with flooding and now they are experiencing a drought," she said.

"It might be different the reasons for the challenges, but either way we want to make sure we're able to support them."

How can farmers reach out?

FCC encourages farmers to reach out to discuss their options that would help reduce the financial pressures that come with agriculture.

"It's really important for peace of mind and for planning going forward to know what actions are available," said Weatherall.

"Even if they are not sure what they want to do, we're happy to sit down with them and talk about their individual situation, and go through all the options that might be helpful for them and support them."

Farmers can arrange a time to speak with a consultant from FCC through their customer service cen-

tre at 1-888-332-3301, or online through their website: fcc.ca

"We work with customers and their financial concerns for sure, but we're also big proponents of mental health services and support in the Ag industry," Weatherall said.

"We do have a list of mental health resources in a publication that we released this year on our website: www.fcc.ca/wellness

"If someone is struggling with their mental health or just wants to look at what resources are available, I would encourage producers, anyone in the industry really, to take a look at that. There's lots of good information on that website."

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Ag water management funding now available

On August 11, the Water Security Agency (WSA) announced \$700,000 for agricultural producers and local governments to complete water management projects. This funding is part of a \$1.5 million two-year commitment announced in 2022-23 to support the continued growth of a sustainable and resilient agricultural sector in Saskatchewan.

"This Agricultural Water Management Fund addresses the cost burden and other barriers producers and local governments might experience when planning water management projects in Saskatchewan," Minister Responsible for the Water Security Agency Jeremy Cockrill said. "This will provide landowners with the financial support and access to necessary advice, information, and tools they need."

Applicants can receive up to \$95,000 per project based on a cost-sharing approach. It can be used for qualified persons support, technical and engineering costs, and

mitigation and rehabilitation works for new agricultural water management projects.

This program is part of WSA's ongoing commitment to supporting the agricultural community in completing and maintaining responsible agricultural water management projects in Saskatchewan. In June, WSA announced a 50 per cent rebate of up to \$100,000 per application for channel clearing and drainage maintenance projects, which will help landowners proactively manage potential flooding and erosion concerns.

WSA is also consulting with landowners to develop an effective Agricultural Water Stewardship Policy that supports both agricultural producers and the environment. That policy is expected to be finalized later this year.

For more information about the Agricultural Water Management Fund, visit wsask.ca.

August oil and gas public offering raises over \$16.6 million

The Government of Saskatchewan's Crown petroleum and natural gas public offering held on August 8 has raised \$16,689,771.93 for the province.

Of the 111 parcels posted, 92 parcels received acceptable bids. These bids covered 22,060.899 hectares.

The Estevan area brought in \$9,022,070.38 for 70 leases and three exploration licences totaling 9,146.727 hectares.

The Kindersley area brought in \$6,273,105.45 for two leases and one exploration licence totaling 10,005.237 hectares.

The Lloydminster area brought in \$1,394,596.10 for 16 leases totaling

2,908.935 hectares.

The highest bonus bid received on a parcel in this offering is \$6,171,216.64. This 9,226.194-hectare exploration licence was awarded to ISH Energy Ltd. and is located in the Kindersley Area.

The highest dollars per hectare received in this offering is \$11,040.85/hectare. This 129.519-hectare lease was awarded to Hummingbird Energy Inc. and is located in the Estevan area.

After three of six public offerings this fiscal year, the province has received \$37,183,902.32 in revenue. This greatly exceeds the \$19.4 million that was budgeted for the entire 2023-24 fiscal year.

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Local student injured in motocross accident

Community gets behind GoFundMe campaign in support of the family of 16-year-old Koby Machniak

Continued from front

Families across Canada and the U.S. have been reaching out to Koby and his family.

"Some other parents have been reaching out to me from the Motocross Association and even in the U.S.," said Lea. "I am having other parents reach out and saying that we should increase the goal for the GoFundMe because the motocross world is very special and people want to donate."

The support has been huge for Koby and his family as they feel the love from families and friends all over. They say it has really helped.

"The support has been amazing. I am seeing a lot of people share and donate to the GoFundMe page throughout Moosomin, our town. So many family, friends, clients, have been sharing the GoFundMe. It is melting my heart to know how much Koby is loved. I feel so blessed read-

ing the messages I have had for Koby and our family. So overwhelming. The messages, texts and gifts we have been receiving has been overwhelming. The McNaughton High School staff sent us gifts to help us while staying in Winnipeg. The whole school staff came together to help us and it has really helped us all. I have had numerous churches and groups reaching out, which has been very helpful, and giving us so much hope and love. The owner of Madesa track in Virden has reached out to ask about Koby and how he is doing. The hospital, the nurses, doctors and specialists here have all been offering their support and help in every different way, emotionally for whenever any of us may need to talk to someone. STARS and the Ronald McDonald House have been accommodating for our large split family which has been so amazing that we can all take turns with Koby."

On Friday, August 4, the family increased the GoFund-

Me target to \$25,000. "We have a long road ahead.

"I can feel the power of the Holy Spirit here with us. Thank you everyone for all your prayers for Koby," Lea said.

For anyone who wishes to help Koby and his family, the GoFundMe link is <https://www.GoFundMe.com/Lea-prayers-and-help-for-koby>



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Enjoying summer fun before harvest begins

July is the month of the year for farmers like us (in our in of work and at our age) when we get a break from the work and get to enjoy the weather all at once, providing the weather is half decent that is.

When we pulled the RV out to the lake a month ago, I am not sure we anticipated such an extended period of time that we could push the boat out each morning and get in a few hours of fishing every day. But oh the fish cleaning that needed to be done! Not that I actually do that, just to be clear. It looked to me to be a bit of a chore, however the fried fish and the fish tacos were, I hope, worth hubby's efforts in his eyes because it was Oh! So! Tasty!!

The break from the farm hasn't excluded the concern we have for our crops, not that we can change a darn thing about the moisture levels of course. But every grain farmer who sees the crop stress appearing across their fields, if they are in a similar state of heat distress as we are in the Whitewood area, can only sigh with disappointment. As for 'maybe next year'—let's not even go there. I have heard some farmers express a desire though to see the big 'white combine' come in. And as someone so aptly said when I mentioned the 'H' word (hail)... "we can't even get a cloud in the sky, nor a spit of rain; hoping for hail seems like a long stretch."

From the little I have traveled through parts of Saskatchewan this summer, some places are worse off than what we are, and in fact in Saskatchewan, many areas have had multiple stretches of 10 days or more with no significant rainfall and as of a week or so ago, our province has about 20 rural municipalities which have declared states of emergency due to drought. It's definitely reminding me of the dry season we had just two years ago. Oh, except for harvest time that is when it finally began to rain. Ahhh yes, the weather challenges we experience from year to year. After 46 years of this, nothing surprises me anymore.

Nevertheless, as we approach the end of our time at the lake, my mind is starting to plan harvest meals. Oh how I do not like to cook and oh how I never know what I ought to make. As if doing this for the past 46 years hasn't given me a few clues. I know getting back home means a harsh switch to reality—get those frozen meals made! The notebook I have on my table at the lake is laying open for one reason—get a shopping list made and meal ideas listed. Not surprisingly, my notebook is still blank.

Lake time has also meant visits with family and friends



The Lighter Side of Life...
DOWN ON THE FARM
by donna beutler
FREELANCE PHOTOJOURNALIST
dl_beutler@yahoo.ca

and lots of 'round the campfire' moments. And lots of laughs. One evening as we sat around the fire with the twins and our two youngest grands, I told them funny little stories about when their dad and their mom were little back in the day, living on our farm, the farm the twins and their family now live on. They laughed and laughed but the next night around the fire I told them it was their turn to tell me some funny stories about their parents or their family.

The kids had hardly even started speaking when one of the twins' little blue yand exercise balls (think squishy) exploded all over his face and his hair and cap and down his sweatshirt and all over the lawn chair, and that was the end of storytelling that night. Exactly how can one small, fist-sized ball hold so much slimy goopy stuff? Gramps had an interesting time washing out the shirt in the little sink and Wyatt headed straight for the shower to see if the goop would wash out of his hair.

From mini golf games to fishing to kayaking and paddle boarding to scavenger hunts at dark to the Beachside Treats truck to chalk drawing contests sponsored by our campground (and which the grands won I must add), we were busy literally every minute of every day, and from six o'clock on I might add as the twins could never wait to get out on the boat and start their day with a fishing rod in their hands. "Okay, Gramps, it's time for you to get moving," I would say every morning, knowing the twins were up and already getting their gear in the boat on the beach across from our tiny summer home. And then, once I had pushed the boat out with my three guys on, my moment had come!

I sat on the beach reading my book and enjoying the sun as it began to make its way a little higher in the skies, right up until the younger ones woke up and poked their head out the camper door. What a beautiful world was created for us to enjoy. Wow! Truly there is beauty everywhere and what sweet bliss it was to sit on a beach in the morning before anyone was up and about at our campground and enjoy the solitude and the gentle lapping of waves at my feet.

As a kid, before I moved to Saskatchewan, I thought beauty was only in trees and rock and lakes like my northwest Ontario home, but it's truly everywhere!

I took our two youngest grands to Government House

in Regina the other day and there was a quote written (from the late 1800's I believe) by someone whose name eludes me as I write this, saying something like this: except for Sodom and Gomorrah, there is no worse place than Regina—there's not a tree anywhere! Apparently we have a few more trees in Saskatchewan now (fortunately).

In fact, the gardener at Government House back in the late 1800's/early 1900's is responsible for bringing trees to Saskatchewan (from Banff no less) and particularly the caragana tree—you know, the ones that surrounded every homestead across these prairies I am sure. The ones my twin grandsons refer to as the trees old people used to plant, you know, those trees all over the old yardsites. Yup, I know what you mean. I now also know some history behind them! My little history buff grandson (9) was totally intrigued with Government House and his sister (7) had eyes as big as saucers when we walked into the dining room. That is one massive table!

But now, harvest (such as it may be this year) is just around the corner and combines and swathers are being readied. 'My' combine, or at least the one I am most likely to run this year, is being brought up to snuff by none other than the mechanic who surely dreads when our phone numbers show up on his cell.

Now that I walk quite well, thanks to two new hips, I am wondering if I should be looking at getting my semi license. That little talk I had with myself didn't go on for very long however as I think about how much I don't even like pulling the boat or the teeny tiny little flatdeck. Nope, definitely passing on that thought. And if my son happens to read this, I know he's thinking, "Oh, thank goodness, Mother! You are not going to be driving my semi trucks."

As lake time passes us by, so has July's annual 4-H local and regional shows and sales at the Whitewood Auction Barn. I have three 'farm' grandchildren who are very involved in 4-H and whose steers (to me) looked amazing. The temps were absolutely freezing on local 4-H day and the wind was much like a winter blizzard type wind but my heart was warm as I watched Reid, Sierra and Wyatt show their animals.

I know how much work goes into preparing them for show and to all the kids in the 4-H clubs in this area, I see the time and the skill it takes to get ready for the big day. I also see the values that these 4-Hers are learning and though I was never a 4-Her (because my parents knew I didn't have the heart to raise a steer and sell it, much less anything else it), I am so proud of all the 4-H kids here who have pledged not only their head to clearer thinking and their heart to greater loyalty, but their hands to larger service—for their club, their community, their country and their world. Hats off too to their leaders, for without you and your knowledge, these kids would never have the opportunity to learn what they are learning.

And that's my tribute to this time around—to 4-Hers and leaders everywhere. Way to go!! Keep on being of service to others, keep on learning new things every day, and keep on enjoying every new experience you have—from in the barns to wherever your passions take you across this world!




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Sgt Rob Nederlof riding across the prairies.



CFB Shilo soldier cycling 1,000 kilometres from Prairies, to Canadian Shield

For the third consecutive summer, a military mechanic from CFB Shilo is cycling 1,000 kilometres across the prairies and through to the Canadian Shield to raise funds for the Wounded Warriors PTSD Service Dog program.

Sgt Rob Nederlof from CFB Shilo's Base Maintenance left Saskatoon, Sask. on Aug. 11, with Aug. 19 his scheduled arrival in Kenora, Ontario.

This third ride is being called To The Shield, but continues to be an integral part of the Prairie Thousand's epic contribution which saw Sgt Nederlof ride 2,000 kilometres on his bicycle across Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba in the past.

His goal then was to draw attention to mental health issues of veterans and EMS workers while raising money to help fund the support dog program.

This year, Sgt Nederlof will cycle 1,000 kilometres across the prairies through to the Canadian Shield in honour of the men and women who serve Canadians—veterans and EMS workers.

"The men and women who stand behind the shield—the military, police, EMS workers—it's for them that we do this," says his wife Marina Nederlof, the support vehicle driver.

This summer's ride has been named To The Shield to honour not only the route into the Canadian Shield from the prairies, but also as a dedication 'to the shield' in honour of those who serve Canadians, explained Marina Nederlof.

Training for the 1,000-kilometre fundraiser began the fourth week of April after Sgt Nederlof was deployed domestically for 10 weeks in the Arctic supporting military training. He cycles 52 kilometres every day to CFB Shilo from the nearby Town of Wawanesa, where he resides with Marina and their family.

In 2021, when Sgt Nederlof kicked off the Prairie Thousand fundraiser, he peddled 1,000 kilometres from Wawanesa to Lethbridge, Alta. with the goal of raising \$5,000.

The following summer, he cycled 1,000 kilometres from Edmonton to Minnedosa, Man. His goal was to raise \$7,000.

To date, the Nederlofs have raised \$53,397.59—\$41,397.59 above the original goal of \$12,000—in two years.

This year, his goal is to \$10,000. "We are always conservative," says Marina Nederlof. "We don't go into this with any expectations. We appreciate any money we raise for the PTSD Support Dog program."

Demand for Wounded Warrior's PTSD Service Dogs has outstripped the funding capacity to train and pair service dogs with ill, injured veterans and First Responders, according to Wounded Warrior's information found online.

The average cost to train a dog is \$15,000 and the training takes two years.

Wounded Warriors Canada national partnerships director Steven Topham recogniz-

es the outstanding effort which went into raising just shy of \$54,000 by the Nederlofs.

"When we consider what that means on the average cost of certifying a dog . . . that right away, three or four people have been impacted, and families have been positively impacted through the support of Rob and Marina," he said in a telephone interview.

He drew attention to the conversations the Nederlofs have with people during their journey.

"It's the conversations they're having in these communities," said Topham. "There are services in these communities and they're engaging in these conversations with what we do as an organization. They're raising significant awareness to the people who need the service. People want to help."

By the end of August, Nederlof and his wife will have cycled and driven 3,000 kilometres for the support dog program.

"It's a cause that's near and dear to our hearts," Sgt Nederlof said.

While the sergeant has his own experience with PTSD after three overseas tours, which included Afghanistan and Bosnia, he knows people who also suffer worse than him.

"It's always worth it, as hard as it can be, to just go out and push past your comfort zone and talk to people. You get it back in so many ways," said Sgt Nederlof.

The Nederlofs have seen a lot on their journeys and it's had an impact on the Manitoba couple.

"We have a different perspective on thinking first what somebody else could be going through and never making judgements," said Marina Nederlof.

Prairie Thousand – To The Shield welcomes cadets, scout troops, or any other organization wishing to ride along with Sgt Nederlof as he cycles through their towns.

To contact Prairie Thousand, e-mail prairie1000@gmail.com or go to the website www.prairie1000.com or message on the Prairie Thousand Facebook page.

Quick Facts

- While he has not used a support dog to manage his PTSD, he knows people who have. "The support dog is aware of when its owner is about to experience an attack," said Sgt Nederlof.

- Sgt Nederlof wants to make an impact on those who are suffering from the devastating occupational trauma to their brain and raise money to help fund support dogs for veterans, First Responders and their families.

- Wounded Warriors is a mental health service provider which provides a range of clinically facilitated programs specifically developed to support veterans and First Responders and their families. He bicycled from Wawanesa, Man. to Lethbridge, Alta., a distance of 1,000 kms roughly. He's been riding since he was a kid.

- The Wounded Warrior PTSD Service Dogs program has been in existence since

2012. They have contributed more than \$3-million to training and pairing of PTSD service dogs according to its website. The price tag to train a support dog is \$15,000.

- To support Prairie Thousand – To The Shield, tag along or to connect with the Prairie Thousand team, or check out Sgt's Nederlof's Facebook page www.facebook.com/PrairieThousand

- A QR code on the page directly links you to the webpage, www.prairie1000.weebly.com

- For more information about Wounded Warriors Canada visit www.wounded-warriors.ca

- Sgt Nederlof is also on Twitter: @prai-

riethousand

- Visit <https://woundedwarriors.ca/our-programs/ptsd-service-dogs/> for more information on the service dog program.

Travel dates

- Here's a breakdown of Sgt Nederlof's travel plans: Aug 11 – Saskatoon to Davidson; Aug 12 – Davidson to Lumsden; Aug 13 – Lumsden to Grenfell via Regina; Aug 14 – Grenfell to Elkhorn; Aug 15 – Elkhorn to Carberry via Virden and Brandon; Aug 16 – Carberry to Portage; Aug 17 – Portage to Winnipeg; Aug 18 – Winnipeg to Falcon Lake; and Aug 19 – Falcon Lake to Kenora



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Levi Jamieson driving a team of horses in the Moosomin Chamber of Commerce Parade on July 15.



Levi Jamieson with his 4-H steer. He donated part of the proceeds from the steer to Moosomin's CT Scanner fund.

Levi Jamieson gives back to the community

Injured in an ATV accident, Jamieson wants to make a difference by contributing to the CT scanner

BY ASHLEY BOCHEK

Levi Jamieson recently donated a portion of his 4-H steer sale proceeds to Moosomin's CT Scanner fund. Levi, a 17-year-old who farms with his family at Moosomin, was in an ATV accident in 2020, and wants to make difference for patients with medical emergencies in the future.

He says a CT Scanner in Moosomin would have saved a couple of hours when he had his injury.

Levi and a friend were both injured in the ATV accident. "My accident happened on October 18, 2020. My buddy, Zayn Leslie and I were heading across a field fixing fence and we hit a drainage ditch in a side-by-side and it rolled. I ended up with a spinal cord injury and Zayn ended up with a broken collar bone," he explains.

Levi has been overwhelmed with the support he has seen since the accident.

"My whole family, all of my friends, everyone has been supportive in different ways, which is really nice. Both the communities, McAuley and Moosomin, the people, organizations and businesses, they have all been really good. It's great to know you have that support. We are a small community, we can all come together when we need to, and it works out perfectly.

The Moosomin Shrine Club is one of the local groups that has provided support to Levi and his family.

"The Shriners have been a huge support to me and my family. They helped us travel to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania three times to a spinal cord specialist there and it has been awesome travelling to visit the specialists there. It is pretty good going down there, they are good people and have helped me a lot.

"I didn't expect any help from the Shriners, they kind of just came to me. There is obviously a specialist for everything and I didn't know where it was until they reached out to my family and let us know they have one in Philadelphia for spinal cord injuries. I still see the specialist there, they actually have a brand new chair sitting there waiting for me. They have specialists for everything down there, spinal cord, physio, seatings, measuring you for a wheelchair and usually they have someone who can help you out with anything. The support is awesome. It is so nice to have the Shriners to send me to Philadelphia to get the treatments I need. The support has also helped me accept the fact that my way of life has changed, but my family and friends haven't."

Ability to do things differently

Jamieson says he doesn't see his injuries as a disability. "The mindset of being in a wheelchair isn't the end of the world. It's not a disability, it's an ability to do things differently, is how I put it. Everything a guy has to do in a wheelchair takes a little more time and a bit more effort, but we'll just adapt and try to figure things out and find a way to do it, make it happen."

Levi has had to adapt and he has had help along the way, such as when Merle Malin of Redvers gave him a hydraulic lift to help him access farm machinery, after reading about Levi in the World-Spectator. "The lift is unreal. Before, it was climbing up the steps into the tractor and now I sit there and let the lift do the work. It is awesome."

Jamieson says his injuries were life changing. "Obviously, it has impacted me a lot. Everything has been a huge change. It just takes more time and effort to do ev-



Levi Jamieson

everything."

Support for the CT Scanner

Why did he decide to support the CT scanner? "I think if Moosomin had a CT scanner it would be a lot better for a bunch of surrounding communities and it would be a huge addition to the Moosomin hospital," he said. "Many people can benefit from it, whoever needs it in an emergency."

"The CT scanner would benefit Moosomin and surrounding area because if another emergency happens and somebody needs a CT scan, then doctors can do it here and instantly help. I think the hospital and patients would benefit greatly from it.

"I think the CT scanner would make a huge difference here in Moosomin because then no one would have to go to Regina. Having a CT scanner here would have probably saved me a couple hours for sure, because STARS had to fly into Regina, land, then the ambulance to the airport, and the air ambulance to Saskatoon. A CT Scanner in Moosomin would save precious time. Just a few hours could make a big difference for a lot of people."

Support for STARS

This isn't the first time he has given back. "I donated half of my steer last year to STARS. When I first started 4-H it was always a \$50 or \$100 cheque to some place in Moosomin such as STARS or the hospital. It's never changed, I just decided this year would be time to do a bigger one for our community."

"STARS saved my life when they air-lifted me from Moosomin to Saskatoon as quickly as they did. Now, I like to help them with whatever they need."

"I was airlifted by STARS from Moosomin to Regina, then the air-ambulance from Regina to Saskatoon. Jim Pattison (children's hospital) doesn't have a helipad so that's why you have to take the jet from Regina to Saskatoon."

Overcoming challenges

Jamieson has learned to overcome the challenges that have come with his injury. "Nothing's really changed, I rode my horse before and I ride my horse now, I farmed before and I farm now. One thing I do differently now is I do sledge hockey. Sledge hockey is a lot of fun and a lot of upper body work. My friends have joined me and we have a team in it as well. Grayson has a team, Regina has a couple teams, Bruno has one, and there are a couple more. There is 16 of us on our team."

The demands of farm chores and work have never stopped Levi as he finds new ways to get things done. "Since the accident, I always knew there would be a way to get things done. I just have to find a different way. I accepted the fact right then and there and I will get it done, I will always find a way. Instantly, I accepted it and decided let's get on with life."

"I knew that things would get harder, and there are ups and downs. One day may be good and the next a little harder, it just depends on what you are doing and how you decide to do it. It changes, days vary. If you say there is something I can't do, I will find a way to do it and prove you wrong. It is a lot harder to do anything I want to, such as getting into equipment and getting on my horse."

"I have adapted by using the tractor bucket to open gates to go through and not having them completely latched then just lifting the bucket over the fence and pulling them back. My mom, dad, and Uncle Keith, they would all come out and figure out a way for me to do it on the farm. We always made it work. We find a way whether it is opening gates or chasing cows, anything like that we will find a way, adapt, and make it work."

Since the accident Levi has met other people who are managing to farm with injuries like his. "I have met Merle Malin, Blake Lamontagne from Wawota, and he was my brother's age and he has the same injury as me. There is a guy out by Saskatoon that was on TeleMiracle two years ago and I met him and he farms, too. It is nice to be able to text him and ask, 'hey how do you work around these problems?' He will explain it to me and then I'll figure out a way close to that and get it done."

Giving back

Another way Levi is giving back is by sharing his story. "The Shriners asked me to do a speech at the Shrine supper so I think I will do that one this fall. They want me to come out and talk, and it is such a great event so that will be good." He also collects tabs from aluminum cans to help make a difference. "I collect tabs from cans because they actually make wheelchairs out of them. They melt them down and in Regina you can take them to a place and they will ship them to the factories to use them. I have collected a lot of tabs."

What are his plans for the future? "In the future, I want to take over the family farm, to continue to chase my dream and farm. I have no doubt, I will find a way to do it. Whether it takes me a little longer or is a little harder, it's what I want to do so it is what I will do."

"There is always a way. Whether it takes a bit more time or a bit more effort, I will still get it done."

Although fundraising for the CT Scanner has not officially begun, the Moosomin and District Health Care Foundation has taken in \$100,000 toward training and building renovations if Moosomin is approved for a CT Scanner.

Richardson Pioneer Whitewood donates \$50,000 to Kipling Arena

BY SIERRA D'SOUZA BUTTS
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

On July 20, Richardson Pioneer Whitewood donated \$50,000 to Kipling Arena to help the town with its upgrades for the facility.

The town closed the arena for the summer during its construction phase in order to improve the facility.

The upgrades being done to the arena include redoing the entrance, installing wheelchair accessible bathrooms, putting up new siding, and electrical work. Rodney Luypaert, Crop Inputs Manager at Richardson Pioneer Whitewood, said they were happy to contribute to a local project.

"The Town of Kipling applied to our Richardson Foundation," he said.

"We have a foundation where we give back to small towns across Western Canada. We've done quite a few donations in our area to Moosomin, Kipling, Langbank, Whitewood, Tantaloon. Any community can apply.

"It feels good to give back, we like to give back to all of the communities in our trading area."

Mayor Pat Jackson of Kipling said the donation helps a lot towards improving the facility.

"This will go towards arena repairs. The costs were considerably higher than what we anticipated because construction costs have completely gone up," said Jackson.

"We've got to keep the arena in solid, healthy, safe condition until such time as it can be replaced."

The town's long term plan is to build a new arena for the community.

However until then, Jackson said the community has decided to renovate its current facility so that people in Kipling can enjoy its recreational services.

"The arena does get used a



Thankful for community's support

Leisure Services Manager Susan Hengen said the donation from Richardson Pioneer Whitewood is much appreciated to the community of Kipling.

"Richardson Pioneer is a very generous contributor," said Hengen.

"What's really unique about Richardson's is they look after their communities.

"They donated previously to the replacements of our boards, a few years back. I think we received \$35,000 for that.

"They are a great agricultural partner because they continue to give back to communities."

Left: Mayor Pat Jackson and Leisure Services Manager Susan Hengen thanked Rodney Luypaert and James Hassler of Pioneer Richardson Whitewood for their donation of \$50,000 towards the upgrades for Kipling Arena.

great deal," she said.

The renovations to the arena include improving the front of the building, as well as adding an additional bathroom to the waiting room area and making it more accessible to people with disabilities.

With construction for the arena's repairs almost being completed, Jackson said it should be finished by the end of August and open in time for the fall season.



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How to identify verticillium stripe

BY COURTNEY BOYACHEK

Verticillium stripe is the hottest new disease in canola world, rising to yield-damaging levels in Manitoba and eastern Saskatchewan and found in all growing regions across the Prairies. Many farmers and agronomists are learning how to tell it apart from blackleg or sclerotinia stem rot. This article provides the keys to accurate verticillium stripe identification.

Symptom one: Stem striping. When the crop is full height but still green, canola plants infected with verticillium stripe will often have a two-toned stem—half healthy and green and half discoloured and drying down. This is where the “stripe” name comes from. Leaves can show similar symptoms—healthy on one side, diseased on the other. You will not see stem or leaf striping with blackleg or sclerotinia stem rot. Sclerotinia will cause stem discoloration, but it will not stripe half the stem.

Symptom two: stem cross section discoloration. Verticillium stripe infects roots and enters the plant’s vascular system. Verticillium hyphae and conidia fill up the vascular system, giving the stem cross section a greyish colour. This is easily confused with blackleg. We have two tips to distinguish the pathogens. With blackleg, stem tissue infection tends to be darker and cause distinct wedge shapes of black. Verticillium is lighter grey and more general throughout the cross section. And two, blackleg stem discoloration is confined to the crown area at the base of the stem. Verticillium darkening can extend well up the stem.

Symptom three: black specks. As verticillium infection advances, microsclerotia will start to form on the underside of peeling stem skin. These can be found all the way up the stem. Verticillium specks may seem similar to blackleg pycnidia, but they’re much smaller—more like powdery pepper. In some cases, blackleg pycnidia will have a purple-pinkish ooze of pycnidiospores around them. Blackleg pycnidia are also confined to a lesion no more than a couple centimetres in size. If you see pink and specks confined to a lesion, it’s blackleg.

Symptom four: stem peeling and weakening. Peeling stem skin is a symptom of verticillium stripe. Under that peeled outer layer will be the microsclerotia, often taking the shape of faint black vertical striping. Severely diseased stems may break off and can be confused with lodging. Sclerotinia stem rot will also cause weakened brittle stems, but sclerotinia will not have the stripy, speckly microsclerotia. Sclerotinia stem rot will cause



Left: As verticillium infection advances, microsclerotia—tiny specks—will show up on the underside of peeling stem skin and throughout the inside of the stem. **Right:** Verticillium darkening can extend well up the stem. Infection can also hollow out the stem core. Blackleg cross-section discoloration is confined to the base of the stem and will not cause stem hollowing.

the entire stem tissue to shred, not just the outer layer. Inside the stem, sclerotinia will form sclerotia bodies—the canola-seed-sized resting bodies. Verticillium stripe does not produce sclerotia bodies.

The ideal time to scout for verticillium stripe is at harvest when symptoms are most obvious. No fungicide or soil amendment is known to be effective on verticillium stripe, so accurate identification is all about future management.

Verticillium microsclerotia are soil-borne, so steps to keep soil in place could provide some reduction in spread. Two- or three-year breaks between canola crops are good disease management in general, but verticillium microsclerotia can remain viable for many years. Plant tolerance or resistance is likely to provide the best solution, and plant breeders are looking into this trait.

Blackleg and sclerotinia stem rot, if those are the diseases present, are more manageable through genetic resistance, crop rotation and fungicides.

For more on verticillium stripe identification and management, read the verticillium stripe chapter at canolaencyclopedia.ca and “Verticillium stripe—identification and management” at canolawatch.org/fundamentals.

Left photo credit: CCC
Right photo credit: Yixiao Wang



Photo credit: CCC

These stem cross sections show the differences between verticillium stripe (left), blackleg (middle) and a healthy plant (right).

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